Sharing of Krishna River Water

*338. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which share the Krishna water and their relative share in the same;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra is demanding a higher share of water to meet the requirement of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government would consult all the concerned States before taking a decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The names of the States and their share in Krishna water as allocated by Krishna water Disputes Tribunal are as under:—

Name of State	Share of Krishna Waters		
	Out of 75% dependable flow of 2060 *TMC	Return flow by 1998-99 (TMC)	Total (TMC)
Maharashtra	560	25	585
Karnataka	700	34	734
Andhra Pradesh	800	11	811
TOTAL	2060	70	2180

*TMC:— Thousand Million Cubic feet.

(b) and (c) No such demand has been received from Maharashtra Government. However, according to Section-6 of Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1955, the decision of the Tribunal shall be final and binding on the parties to the dispute and shall be given effect to by them.

The Tribunal Award is open for review on and day after 31.05.2000.

Development of vegetable sector in Maharashtra

*339. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any action plan for the development of vegetable sector in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds released to the State for the purpose during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the funds released by Government were fully utilised by State Government; and

(e) if not, what action Government have taken in his regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Government of India is implementing following Central Schemes for development of vegetable sector in Maharashtra:—.

1. Production & Supply of Vegetable Seeds.
2. Development of Root & Tuber Crops.
3. Development of Mushroom.
4. Crop Estimation Survey on Fruits, Vegetables & Minor Crops.

(c) Funds released during last 3 years are as under:—

(Rs. in lacs)

Scheme	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
1. Vegetable	14.96	7.00	9.50
2. Root & Tuber Crops	0.00	1.69	0.50
3. Mushroom	0.00	0.00	1.50
4. Crop Estimation Survey	25.25	24.00	27.00

(d) The utilisation under the schemes namely Vegetables, root & tuber Crops and Mushroom during the last 3 years mentioned in reply to part (c) above was Rs. 30.85 lakhs against the releases of Rs. 35.15 lakhs. However, funds released under Crop Estimation Survey on Fruits, Vegetables & Minor Crops were fully utilised by the State.

(e) Minitoring is being done regularly so as to ensure that the State Government utilises the funds fully and achieve the targets.

Replacement of Haj Act

*340. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are bringing legislation to replace the present Haj Act;

(b) whether Government would introduce the Haj bill which has been drafted by the Commitee of MPs. constituted by the External Affairs Ministry shortly; and

(c) whether Government are going to reconstitute the Haj committee, which is long over due; if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) The present Haj Commitee Act was passed in 1959, i.e. over 39 years ago. The question of replacing this Act with an act that would take into account the major changes that have taken place in the area of Haj management both in India and Saudi Arabia, has been under consideration of Government for several years. At the end of last year, a nine-member Advisory Commitee consisting of Muslim, Members of Parliament and former Members of Parliament had been constituted. This Committee had prepared a draft Haj Bill to replace the existing Act.

2. The draft was circulated to elicit the comments of other Government departments as also of the State Governments. On the basis of these comments, a revised draft Bill is now under preparation. This Ministry is presently engaged in consultations with other Government departments and State Governments to determine the most appropriate and feasible model for Haj management for India. The experience of other countries in Haj management is also being taken into account.

3. The present Haj Committee Act provides for the constitution of a Haj Committee that would have a minimum life of three years; no maximum life is provided for in the Act. The present Haj Committee was constituted on October 12, 1993, and, thus, completed three years of its existence on October 11, 1996. The Government has decided to reconstitute the Haj Committee and has asked or fresh nominations from the Hon'ble Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the State Government of Maharashtra in respect of nominations from the Maharashtra Government, the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly and the Mumbai Minicipal Corporation as provided for under the Haj Committee Act. The Government will also nominate